



Signals

News and notes from
The Hudson Valley Rail Trail Association
Highland, New York

Volume 2 Number 2

Summer 2005

Pavilion going up!

by Claire R. Costantino

On September 15, 2004, the Highland Rotary Club turned over the first spade of dirt to commemorate the initial phase of the Highland Rotary Community Pavilion.

Much has happened in the ensuing months. First there was site work to prepare the area for the concrete slab along with the installation of a water line and sewer line to existing municipal systems. With the slab and underground utilities such as electricity to the building in place, the building began to take form. First the uprights, then the beams followed by the rafters and finally the roof. Then the frame out of the future restrooms, store room and kitchen area.

Countless hours of volunteer labor was received from area businesses, individuals and Highland Rotary members. The pavilion was shrouded in plastic for the first official Hudson Valley Rail Trail Association event – the 2005

WinterFest held in single digit temperatures with a record crowd in attendance. Then the building bared the long cold winter. The weather moderated and Jim Taylor Plumbing and Heating came on site to install the rough plumbing.



With the advent of spring, members of the Highland Rotary Club began the tedious task of apply a first coat of paint to each board and batten. Then in the heat of summer, a crew from Westbank Contracting came on the scene to place the board and batten in place, secure the hardware and doors, create and install the “attic” door.

Highland Rotary Community Pavilion Project Coordinator

Ray Costantino reports that the response from the community has been overwhelming. In addition to the many man hours that have been donated by individuals and businesses there have been donations of materials that has helped to bring the project in on budget.

Currently Ray is working with Stanley Hasbrouck and Westbank Contracting to develop a materials list and to coordinate the workdays needed to finish the siding and



Peter Dakin handing a piece of lumber to Mike Borchsenius, both from Westbank Contracting

gable ends. Work will begin on the restrooms in the near future.

This is truly a community pavilion, initiated by the Highland Rotary Club, but made possible by the many community volunteers who have

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Message from the President

What an exciting past few months – Breakfast on the Black Creek – again a very successful event held on a warm and sunny June morning celebrating National Trails Day. Thank you once again Sue Frampton for providing us with this great event.

The 2nd Annual 8K Race held on July 16 in rather warm and cloudy weather was another great success. Over 100 racers with a record time of 25.29 minutes. Our hats off to Mary Phillips coordinator of this most success event.

The Highland Rotary Club Centennial Garden has become a reality with special plantings in memory of Susan Rozman provided by the Susan Rozman Foundation. In addition to the Rozman Foundation and Ron Rozman, I extend a sincere thank you to John Jankiewicz, Frank Palmatier, Dave Campala and John Passante for their volunteer labor to clear and prepare the area for the plantings. Two benches donated by the Cerniglia Family and the Highland Girl Scouts in memory of the Cerniglia children were recently added to the garden. The Girl Scouts with the assistance of Matt Smith and his water tanker are watering the newly planted shrubs, trees and flowers. Next is the installation of the Highland Rotary’s Centennial Park sign commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Rotary International. A special thank you to Highland Rotary Centennial Project Coordinator Claire Costantino for her passion, dedication and execution of this project. She put all the players into motion and brought the project in on budget on behalf of the Highland Rotary Club.

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Signals

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**The Hudson Valley Rail Trail Association
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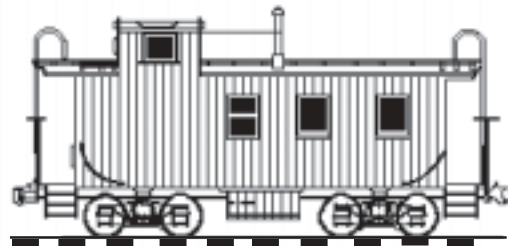
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Don't get left behind...

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Support the Hudson Valley Rail Trail Association. See page 7 for details.

8k Race recap

by Mary Phillips

As the coordinator of the Hudson Valley Rail Trail 8K Race in Highland that took place on July 16th, I write to thank all of the volunteers and sponsors who made the event possible and successful.

Runners, who attended from eleven different counties and five states expressed gratitude for everyone's help in making this race available.

Our sponsors who allowed us to encourage runners to register for the event and provide the winners with trophies, were Sal's Place, The Would, Vadala's Pharmacy, Dr. Joe Cooper, The Kiltmaker's Apprentice, Dr. Vanessa Darmachwal, Fox Hill Bed and Breakfast, and Highland Varsity Sports.

We also wish to thank Head to Toe of Highland, and Award Foods of Kingston for their generous donation of gifts for the runners, and to Hannaford's of Highland for the donation of bottled water. Thanks also to Alamo Ambulance for being available at the race site, and the paramedics who provided a great deal of help on a steamy, hot day.

Regular rail trail walkers, skaters, bikers, baby-stroller pushers, and joggers are to be commended for heeding the signs and keeping the trail clear from 9:00-10:00 on race day.

Volunteers who helped at the race, and without whom there would be no race, were, Dave Boles, Linda Stow, Barbara Heiles, Larry Scarborough, Sheldon Quimby, Addie Haas, Larry Braun, Kris Kennedy, Allie Rosenberger, Shayne Coons, Ellen Archer, Samantha Schrader, Larry Roberto, Kelly Roberto, Melanie Short, Amy Rosenberger, Pat and Jim



need a caption (winner of female?)

Jelacic , Alan and Susan Van De Bogart , Kate Weiner, Bonnie and Michael Ascenzi, Jeri and Jerry Luke, Brian Libby, Bernie Stahl, Hank Van Parys, Matt Smith, Everton Henriques, Loretta Miller, Claire Costantino, Sue Brooks, Donna Deeprose, and all the supporters and spectators.

A special thank you goes to disc jockey, Kevin Doyle, who provided background music all morning, and to Bob Miller, who promoted the event on his radio show and was available for race day announcements.

And another special thanks goes to the Highland-based band, "Skamakazi" which includes, Candace Coons, Kyle Hugo, Charlie Marshall, Chaz Montross, Michael Perry, Vincent Rizzi, and Andrew Vogt, for helping to provide an upbeat, party-like atmosphere. Comments from runners and others who attended the race included one which stated that it was a "combination sporting event and party".

Judging from the feedback about the race, it looks as if there will be a 2006 edition!

**www.
HudsonValleyRailTrail.com**

HARVEST MOON WALK on the Highland Rail Trail

by Jeri Ann Luke

Stroll hand & hand with your sweetie, gather up the whole family, or enjoy the quiet company of your neighbors. Mark your calendar for Friday, Sept. 16, 2005, and take advantage of this chance to experience the Rail Trail at night.

The trail, which is always closed after dark, will be opened for just this one special night from 7:30-9:30pm. Walking only, No bikes, No pets. Walkers will start at the Old New Paltz Road Trailhead parking area at 8PM. The Highland Police biking unit will be patrolling the trail.

Everyone wishing to participate must register and will be issued an admission bracelet. Registration will be held that evening at 7:30pm at the Old New Paltz Rd. Trail Head Parking area. Admission for the event is \$5. for 6 and older. Free cider and donuts will be available for all registered participants. Bring a lawn chair and your friends.

So grab your flashlight, Call your friends and neighbors, come out and experience the Rail Trail by night and enjoy the Harvest Moon! Please visit our new website for details and other information:
www.HudsonValleyRailTrail.com.

Nature Reports from the Rail Trail

by Mary Phillips

Spring and Summer have revealed a host of wildlife sightings on the rail trail. Here are some interesting natural wonders that have been reported to me.

The snapping turtle made four nests into which she deposited lots of her characteristic leathery eggs. It's hard to say whether or not the babies made their way to the creek, or if the eggs were opened and devoured by a passing racoon. However, close examination of the egg "shells" did not show teeth marks. Let's hope that the babies made it to the creek. But, we have to keep in mind that other creatures have to eat too.

Speaking of other creatures requiring food, I heard what I think was a pack of coyotes taking



down a deer in the swamp. Lots of howling and carrying on. Hunger happens.

Michelle reported seeing what may have been an albino woolly bear caterpillar. It was pure white, but otherwise, looked just like any other woolly bear caterpillar.



An anonymous reporter mentioned seeing a black snake. Rail trail users need to keep in mind that these rather large reptiles are harmless and should not be tampered with. Just walk around them. Don't ride your bike over them. Remember, snakes are part of nature - just like we are.

Please continue to be aware of nature and report your findings so that we can share them with other readers. ☒

COMING ATTRACTIONS

August 19, 20 & 21:
Highland Rotary Rib Fest at Ulster County Fairgrounds, New Paltz, NY

September 16:
Harvest Moonwalk and Ramble Eve on the Rail Trail. Meet at Highland Rotary Pavilion, New Paltz Road Parking Area

January 21, 2006
Winterfest at Highland Rotary Pavilion at the New Paltz Road Parking Area

Carry your weight...



...join the Hudson Valley Rail Trail Association today!

Annual Membership Meeting, June 4, 2005

by Loreta Miller

The General Membership meeting was called to order by President Ray Costantino at 9:30am at Breakfast on Black Creek.

Elections to the HVRTA Board were held. Directors re-elected to a three-year term were Claire Costantino, Jeri Luke, Jerry Luke, Loretta Miller and new member Ralph Diaz.

Ray spoke about the **history** of the trail and the founding fathers. Sue Frampton enlightened the membership about the **Black Creek Water Trail** and it's connection to the Rail Trail. The **Centennial Park** was presented by Claire Costantino

and it's future and she also spoke about the pending grants for the **Walkway Over The Hudson**. Stephanie King, President of the Highland Rotary, commended Ray for his efforts to obtain volunteers to build the **Pavilion** on New Paltz Road.

The meeting was very well attended and everyone enjoyed the baked goods, fruit and the music provided by "Second Gear." ☒



HVRTA Board Members, left to right: Claire Costantino, Ralph Diaz, Ray Costantino, Loretta Miller, Mary Phillips, Sue Frampton, Everton. Missing from photo: Jeff Anzevino, Jeri Ann Luke, Jerry Luke and Matt Smith


Lip Smackin' Good!

RIBFEST

& BBQ Contest

BBQ FOODS **HUDSON VALLEY RIB FESTIVAL 2005** **CAR SHOW**

LIVE MUSIC **CONTRA DANCE**

KID'S RIDES **\$8500 BBQ COOK-OFF!** 

AUGUST 19-20-21
 ULSTER COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS-NEW PALTZ

FRI 4-11 SAT 11-11 SUN 11-4
 Admission \$5 • Under 12 FREE • Ample FREE Parking
 Details at: www.hudsonvalleyribfest.org

HIGHLAND



Message

continued from page 2

The Highland Rotary Fitness Park is looking great thanks to Mary Ottaviano-Hoysradt and friends who have weeded the fitness stations and placed wood chips, provided by DiLorenzo Tree Care, under the equipment.

The Highland Rotary Community Pavilion continues to near completion with on going volunteer crews. The siding is in place. Restroom installation will be completed in the near future, again with volunteer labor. Picnic tables and benches will soon appear thanks to the Highland Rotary Club and their recent fundraiser. Special thanks to Highland Rotarians Sue Naglieri and Don Verity for leading the Dine Around fundraising effort.

As you can see, many individuals continue to make our rail trail better each day. On behalf of the Hudson Valley Rail Trail Association, I thank each and every one of you for each of the things you do for our rail trail. Please feel free to call me if you would like to help with our efforts by donating your time, money or ideas.

Thanks

Ray Costantino, President
Hudson Valley Rail Trail
Association

Pavilion Progress

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donated countless hours, by financial donors who provided the seed money and by rail trail enthusiasts who have supported this project.

Work progresses and it is anticipated that all work will be completed by fall.

A celebration to honor the many individuals and businesses that have made this dream become a reality is in the planning stages. Look for future developments. ☒



Tim Whitely of Westbank Contracting helping to build the pavilion

We have a New Website!

Be sure and check it out at
www.HudsonValleyRailTrail.com

It's just in its earliest stage. Keep checking back as there will be more to come: events, history, photos, newsletters, membership forms and renewal forms. etc.



Your ad here... call (845) 691-8666

Membership Form

The Hudson Valley Rail Trail Association is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to creating, maintaining, promoting, and improving the Hudson Valley Rail Trail for the benefit of the public. Please help by becoming a member and volunteering your talents.

\$10 Individual \$15 Family \$50-99 Patron \$100-499 Supporting \$500 Benefactor

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Id like to volunteer for:

- Trail maintenance ___ Newsletter ___ Special Events ___
- Fund Raising ___ Data Entry ___ Ecology Projects ___
- Publicity ___ Refreshments ___ History ___
- Art/Graphics ___ Legal ___ Other (specify) ___

Please send form and check payable to:

Hudson Valley Rail Trail Association, Inc. 12 Church Street, Highland, NY 12528

Hudson Valley Rail Trail Rules & Regulations Local Law 2-1998

- 1) Open dawn to dusk
- 2) No littering - Carry in - carry out
- 3) Dogs must be leashed
- 4) No motor vehicles except electric wheelchairs
- 5) No discharging of weapons on or across the trail
- 6) Alcoholic beverages prohibited
- 7) Respect private property signs - keep to trail
- 8) Take only photos. Leave only footprints



Common sense ideas:

- 1) Warn people when you are about to pass them by calling "on your left".
- 2) Keep dogs short-leashed when nearing another trail user - especially equestrians
- 3) Bring a litter bag to remove your pet's droppings, or other people's litter.

Highland Rotary Rib Fest August 19-21	Harvest Moonwalk September 16	Winterfest January 21
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Signals

The Hudson Valley Rail Trail Association
12 Church Street
Highland, New York 12528

www.hudsonvalleyrailtrail.com

Harvest Moon Walk
New Paltz Road
Parking Area
September 16
@7:30PM



...from The Hudson Valley Rail Trail Association

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